



PATENT

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Election  
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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Kuznetsov et al.

Appl. No. : 10/009,851

Filed : November 6, 2001

For : METHOD FOR TRANSFERRING  
WAFERS AND RING

Examiner : Joseph A. Dillor Jr.

Group A Unit 3651

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Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 2327,  
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April 22, 2003

(Date)

Adeel S. Akhtar, Reg. No. 41,394

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

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Dear Sir:

In an action mailed April 3, 2003, the Examiner required restriction of prosecution to one  
of the following groups of claims:

Group I Claims 22-33, drawn to a method of conveying;

Group II Claims 34-46, drawn to a thermal treatment installation/ring; and

Group III Claim 47, drawn to a method of conveying.

In response to this restriction requirement, Applicants elect to proceed, without traverse,  
with prosecution on the merits of Group II (Claims 34-46), drawn to a thermal treatment  
installation/ring.

V. 03/04/03

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03/04/03

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: 10/009,851  
: November 6, 2001

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that the application is in condition for examination on the merits, and respectfully requests the same.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated:

April 22, 2003

By:

Adeel S. Akhtar

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